

MSFC Safety Bulletins

What Happened:

An employee was using stairs to reach the second floor of Building 4487. The employee tripped and suffered a severe fracture of the 4th finger on the right hand. This mishap resulted in a lost time injury.

Outcome of the investigation:

The employee was carrying items in both hands. The employee stumbled on the stairs, fell forward, and struck his/her hand. The stairs used are narrow and the handrails are easily reached from either side. No safety signs were present in the stair well. The stair surface is in good repair. The employee was wearing flat, low heel shoes.



The employee not using the handrail was the contributing cause of this mishap.

What you can do:

- Keep at least one hand free while using stairs and make sure you use the handrail.
- Don't ever attempt to climb stairs while carrying items in both hands.
- Make sure "Use Handrail" safety reminders are located in the stair wells you use at the Center. Notify the building manager if these signs are missing.
- Discuss this mishap during one of your safety meetings to remind employees the importance of using handrails.